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From: Harris-Bishop, Rusty
Sent: Sun 8/9/2015 7:15:31 PM
Subject: FW: Update - R9 GKM Response

FYI, this is the Region 9 update. In addition, we know that there will be an emergency declaration signing event with President Begay and other senior Navajo officials today at 1 p.m. in Window Rock. The declaration will cover the entire San Juan River. There will be another emergency declaration signing event later in the afternoon at the Shiprock Chapter House. They would like to host another public mtg today or tomorrow in Shiprock to provide a general update to the community, review highlights of water sampling data and what those results mean for residents, and provide the opportunity for the community to ask questions.

Rusty



Rusty Harris-Bishop • Superfund Project Manager • Communications Liaison • US Environmental Protection Agency •

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From: Zito, Kelly
Sent: Sunday, August 09, 2015 11:59 AM
To: Smith, Paula; Gray, David; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Purchia, Liz; Lee, Monica; Harrison, Melissa; Harris-Bishop, Rusty; Higuchi, Dean; Keener, Bill
Cc: Allen, HarryL; Blumenfeld, Jared; Manzanilla, Enrique; Kao, Jessica; Strauss, Alexis
Subject: Update - R9 GKM Response

Hi all - Here is the latest from R9.

Thanks-

Kelly

Region 9 Background

The discharge has moved quickly and is in the vicinity of the Navajo Nation boundary, near Kirtland, NM. Navajo officials have reacted quickly, assessing their well fields and drinking and irrigation water intake systems and issuing a precautionary "do not use" public service announcement regarding water from potentially impacted sources. Region 9 held a conference call today with Navajo Nation EPA (NNEPA) and Navajo Department of Public Safety.

The Navajo EPA surface water monitoring program (Shiprock Office) collected water and sediment samples from the San Juan River yesterday - prior to the spill impact. Region 9 provided 2 START contractors and 4 additional personnel are en route to coordinate and conduct increased sample collection and lab analysis in conjunction with NNEPA.

A Region 9 OSC will report to Farmington on Monday to assist. A joint EPA/NNEPA river sampling program has commenced focusing on the San Juan between Shiprock/Hogback, NM area and Mexican Hat, UT and will continue for the foreseeable future. NNEPA also requested drinking water sampling support immediately for Navajo operated water intakes. NNEPA and USEPA drinking water experts agreed to inventory and assess water sources including private wells and intakes.

STAFFING

Farmington

Two Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) are deploying to Farmington on Sunday. The CICs will plan to meet with local Navajo Chapter officials and prepare to host public meetings in the coming days. The CICs will partner with NNEPA and NN Department of Public Safety to ensure comprehensive outreach to all affected Navajo Chapters.

1 R9 OSC arriving Monday, 2 more arriving Wednesday

Durango

1 OSC is in the Durango Incident Command Post to coordinate Navajo field activity updates and results with Region 8. Preparing the R9/R6 incident action plan and staffing the IMT.

The Region has also deployed a Public Information Officer (PIO) to participate in a Joint Information Center (JIC), presently in Durango.

Sent from my iPhone